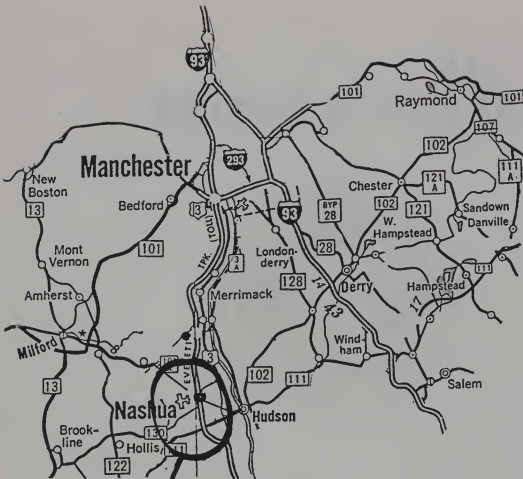


THE NONAGON

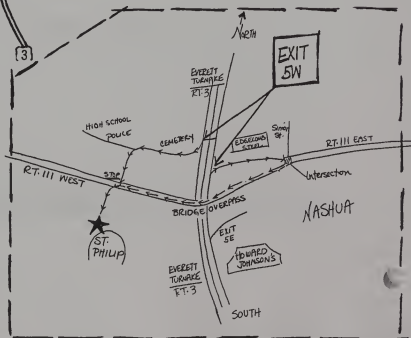


WINTER - 1991

NEW HAMPSHIRE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION



SEE
INSERT



NOTE: RT. 3 and Everett Turnpike are the same road.

H. NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION SHOW
WILL BE IN NASHUA, N.H. May 11 & 12

CENTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE COIN SHOWS
HELD AT HOLIDAY INN, MANCHESTER, N.H.

Nashua Coin Club will host the annual N. H. Numismatic Assn. coin and stamp show May 11 & 12, 1991 at St Philip Church Hall 500 West Hollis St., Rt 111, Nashua. Gary Galbo, President of the Nashua Club, with a corps of experienced club members are making all out efforts to make this an outstanding show. (See map, opposite page),

A rare coin auction will be held at 3 P. M. Sunday. Gary Galbo, who operates "Small Cents" coin dealership, P. O. Box 7848, Nashua, N.H. 03060, Tel. 891-2245, will supply information on commission rates, reserve bids, etc. Apr. 1 is the deadline for consignments. Get started now if you are interested.

A new feature planned for this year is a banquet for New Hampshire Numismatic Association members Saturday evening, May 11. Call Rd. St. Onge 603-883-8247 or Gary Galbo for more information. The state Association will subsidize part of the cost for members and wives. Don't miss out on this opportunity to get better acquainted with your association and other members. We hope to have an outstanding speaker.

Another new feature is the addition of Base Ball Cards to the items in the bourse. The exciting raffle will have its drawing at 2:30 P.M. Sunday, May 12.

Dealers may reserve 8 foot table with back-up for \$80. or corner table for \$120. by contacting Galbo. About 50 dealers are expected. Sports cards must occupy no more than 50% of display space at any table.

The dealers will qualify for banquet tickets at member rates, \$10 single or \$15 for couples.. Show hours are 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Saturday and 10 to 5 Sunday. Dealers may set up at 8 A.M. Saturday. Admission is free. There will be a food concession for your convenience.

HELP HELP HELP

I am always looking for articles to publish in the Nonagon related to N.H. numismatics, etc. Send to Box 391, Concord, N.H. 03302

The new coin show held the 3rd Sunday of each month at Holiday Inn, 700 Elm St., Manchester, N. H. from 9 A.M. to 4 P. M. is receiving many favorable comments from dealers and collectors. The shows are operated by Lee Bird of Investment Coin Exchange, Cozy 27 Plaza, Raymond, N. H. 03077 Tel 603-895-2010. Bourse tables ate \$35 for a 6 foot table, or \$60 for 2. Next show is Feb. 17

NUMISMATIC CALENDAR

Feb. 14-17 , Royal Ridge Mall, Nashua, Collectorfes

Feb. 17, Center of N.H. Coin Show (see above)

Feb. 17, Holiday Inn, Exit 4, Nashua (3rd Sunday's)

Feb. 24, etc, 4th Sunday Shows, Holiday Inn, traffic circle, Portsmouth.

Feb. 28-Mar. 3, Rockingham Mall, Nashua, Collectorfes

Mar. 14-17, Nashua Mall, Exit 6, Nashua

March 17, Center of N. H. Coin Show (see above)

May 11-12, N. H. Numismatic Assn. Coin, Stamp, and Babesall Yard Show, St. Phillips Church Hall, Exit 5W, Nashua, N.H. (see 1st column)

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

The label on your Nonagon has a figure in the upper left corner which indicate when you owe dues. If that figure is 92 or higher your dues are paid until 1992, but if lower you owe \$2 for each year . For example, if that figure is 90 you owe dues for '90 and 1991. Many members pay for several years at a time to save postage and bother. Send to Sam Allen, Box 1655, Dover, N. H. 03820.

Life membership is only \$25. Why not pay up for life and not have to bother with dues again.

Be sure to let us know of address changes as the Post Office does not notify us and returns the Nonagon instead of forwarding it. Notify Sam Allen or me, at Box 391, Concord, N.H. 03302

N. H. NUMISMATICS

NEW HAMPSHIRE MEDALS: INVESTMENT OR COLLECTION?BY
SAM ALLEN

One of the key factors to becoming successful in any collecting area is developing visibility. The more dealers are aware of what you collect, the more likely you are to find what you seek. Based on my persistence in giving my collecting card to anyone who will have it, I have become known as a collector of New Hampshire exonomia and somewhat of a specialist in town medals. In addition to adding a few choice pieces to my private collection, this specialization has drawn many questions about N.H. town medals and their rarity, price, and the re-sale market. Unfortunately there are no easy answers to these complex questions, so I will try and address what I feel are the more important considerations.

First and foremost, you should not consider collecting N.H. town medals for their investment potential. In order for there to be a profit in an item, there has to be a demand. Unlike some of the other New England states (I'm told that Maine and Massachusetts medal collectors are prone to bidding wars when lower number medals are auctioned), there is a limited collecting base for N.H. town medals. There are a handful of people who I would consider serious enough to be trying to complete their collections. There are perhaps another few that dabble in the field. While most of these individuals would be interested in purchasing a medal to fill a hole, most would not consider buying an extensive collection; they just don't need it. This attitude would change however based on the price.

Second, the likelihood of ever completing your collection is very remote given the limited availability of some issues and the virtual incompleteness of any comprehensive reference on the subject. In order for you to know what to collect, you have to know what is available. A good resource on N.H. town medals was published several years ago, but missed a few varieties. Since then, a number older issues have been identified and new medals released. Some of the medals are very scarce, such as the 1913 Haverhill medal with only 2-3 known. Even with this relative rarity, I do not know of anyone who would pay much more than \$100.00 for this piece!

A disturbing factor in the N.H. medal market is the tremendous variation in prices being charged by dealers who have misjudged the relative worth of their inventory. Currently, the market can be divided into two segments; the medals issued prior to 1965, and the modern issues from 1965 to the present. The older issues are a little more scarce and hence demand a higher premium, usually in the \$15.00 - \$30.00 price range. The modern issues are a little more complicated as the sterling and gold pieces are tied into the spot bullion price. Typically, these medals will sell for \$10.00 - \$20.00 for the sterling, \$5.00 for the bronze and \$6.00 - \$8.00 for the pewter. Complicating this pricing scheme are the issue prices at which collectors and the general public made their initial purchases, (many are sold to raise money for the celebration so selling prices are well above spot) and who are now trying desperately to recoup their money. Contributing to this problem is the fact that

N. H. MEDALS (continued)

many of the silver issues were melted down in the 1979-81 bullion craze, when the buy price for a medal was far over the initial cost. How many of these medals missed the melting pot is a mystery. I can attest to the fact that I rarely find N.H. town medals of any kind in my travels, yet I chuckle when I see the sterling medals offered at \$30.00+. If you argue that they may be worth it, you have to ask yourself - to whom?

Lastly, in order to sustain your interest, it becomes important to obtain an occasional new item for your collection. I have had moderate luck at coin shows and antique shops, but to be successful you have to be known. I have been fortunate in that I have had the opportunity to be both schooled and supplied by two veteran collectors of this material. In addition, my visibility has led a few old-time collections to my door. My collection only includes a type from each town and does not include all issues (this would seem to me an impossible task), and I have put a tremendous amount of time and energy into developing the collection I have. I am not sure that what I have accomplished these last few years would even be possible now.

The fun of collecting N.H. medals comes in the search and in the history that each item relays about its hometown. If you're looking to make a profit or invest for the future, stick with another collectable. As for my collection, I hope to one day donate it (after I have had a little bit more fun with it) to the Woodman Institute in Dover.

ADVERTISING

Advertising is accepted for the Nonagon at the following rates: \$12. for a full page; \$7.50 for half a page, \$4.50 for a quarter page, \$3 for one eighth page. Same ad may be included in three consecutive issues at 2 1/2 times the single rate. The Nonagon is issued three times a year usually in January, April, and Sept. Copy for the ads (camera ready) may be submitted to Wayne S. Rich, Box 391, Concord, N. H. 03302 by Jan. 1, April 1, or Sept. 1 with check for payment made to NHNA. Our thanks to those favoring us with ads? Please mention the Nonagon when responding to ads herein. Thanks.

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- Outings/Dedications
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- Encampments: G.A.R./N.H. Veterans' Assn.
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- Sons of Veterans, Women's Relief Corps.,
Amoskeag Veterans, Strafford Guards,
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